

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A method for protecting entry addresses, the method which comprises:

verifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction for authenticating the permissible entry address of a computer program; and

storing, in a memory cell, an address of a correlated data item ~~one of~~ directly before ~~and~~ or directly after a program instruction at the permissible entry address.

2 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises storing, in the memory cell, a reference to a data entry in a protected list of legal entry addresses one of directly before and directly after the permissible entry address.

3 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises directly jumping to the permissible entry address.

4 (original). The method according to claim 1, which comprises automatically checking whether the correlation of data is satisfied for a respective entry address, when a function call is carried out.

5 (currently amended). A method for ~~protecting~~ verifying entry addresses of a computer program, the method which comprises:

verifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction;

providing the correlation of data as a correlation with program data in non-reserved memory areas;

providing the correlation of data as a correlation between code data items, the code data items being disposed at a distance exceeding a maximal length of program instructions ~~at least n bytes away from one another;~~

providing program instructions not exceeding a given maximum number n of bytes, n being an integer number; and

providing a specific no-operation code for avoiding random correlations.

6-8 (canceled).

9 (currently amended). A method for protecting entry addresses, the method which comprises:

verifying a permissible entry address by using a correlation of data, wherein the data are not provided within a same individual instruction;

providing the correlation of data as a correlation with program data in non-reserved memory areas;

providing a specific byte sequence which cannot occur within a regular code, the specific byte sequence being selected to avoid random correlations ~~provided for the correlation of data; and~~

~~protecting the permissible entry address by inserting the specific byte sequence.~~

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10 (original). The method according to claim 9, which comprises using a specific no-operation code as the specific byte sequence.

11 (canceled).